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SOURCE Bashkimi.ALBANIAN DECREE ON SPRING PLANTING

The Council of Ministers of the Albanian People's Republic and the Central Committee of the Albanian Workers' Party have examined the results of 1951 fall planting and the state of preparations for the spring sowing of 1952 and have established that: (1) the fall planting plan for the republic as a whole was completed 101 percent for grains and 106.2 percent for fruit trees and (2) the quality of work was much better than during the 1950 fall planting.

The rreths of Peshkopi, Berat, Tirana, Burrel, and Rreshen, among others, fulfilled and surpassed the plan for the principal crops. The Clirimi State Farm at Fier and the 29 Nentori State Farm at Lushnje, and state farms in general have completed the plan on schedule. They have used advanced agronomic methods, selected seeds, and efficient fertilization. They have employed advanced Soviet methods, such as the sowing of land to obtain selected seed, the use of granular fertilizer, and the cross-planting of wheat.

Collective farms fulfilled the fall planting plan 104 percent. The collective farms at Rembec, Korce Rreth, Fier 1 Ri, Lushnje Rreth, and Mamas, Durres Rreth, distinguished themselves by their efficient work organization, their quick and high-quality planting, and their use of Soviet methods.

The national conference of Stakhanovites and outstanding farmers proved that it was possible to increase agricultural yields by employing advanced agronomic methods based on Soviet methods.

For example, the Clirimi State Farm at Fier obtained a yield of 15 quintals of cotton per hectare on 20 hectares, the 8 Nentori State Farm at Sukth a yield of 18 quintals of cotton per hectare on 5 hectares, and the Maliq, Korce Rreth, State Farm 493 quintals of beets per hectare on 31 hectares and 25.2 quintals of wheat per hectare on 193 hectares. The Rembec collective farm obtained a yield of 18 quintals of wheat per hectare and 23.2 quintals of barley per hectare. The leading team of the Vishocice, Korce Rreth, collective farm obtained a yield of 900 quintals of beets per hectare on one hectare. The following outstanding

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farmers obtained high yields: Ferik Dashi Fier Rreth, 14.54 quintals of cotton per hectare on one hectare; Lasi Liko Lushnje Rreth 16.6 quintals of cotton per hectare on 1.5 hectares; and Xhafer Cipi, Korce Rreth, 240 quintals of sugar beets per hectare on 1.7 hectares.

However, the Council of Ministers and the Central Committee of the Albanian Workers' Party have noted the following shortcomings in the 1951 fall planting:

State and party agencies in the rreths and communities did not furnish the necessary continuous guidance for this campaign. In particular, they did not carry on effective political and organizational work to mobilize all the forces in villages to organize collective work and socialist competition. Consequently, the plan for planting the principal crops was not fully realized and was poorly carried out in some rreths.

The fall sowing was slow and was not completed on schedule. In Lushnje, Fier, Durres, Vlore, and other rreths, the necessary measures were not taken to see that planting regulations were followed. In cooperative and private holdings sufficient attention was not paid to deep-plowing, which is essential in preparing for spring planting.

The MTS were inefficient in organizing their work. They did not repair the tractors well or promptly. As a result of negligent repairs and poor maintenance, tractors and other machinery developed defects while in operation. Hence, the MTS did not fulfill their contracts or the plan. The weakest MTS were those at Berat, Elbasan, Vlore, and Fier.

State farms failed to repair tractors and machinery on schedule or to organize their work properly. Consequently, beside being late, they fulfilled the sowing plan only 95.9 percent. The farm management gave the state farms little assistance in the campaign.

Inadequate measures were taken by the government agencies and party organizations to combat the harmful red cotton worm (*pectinophora Cossi pieIIa*).

Not enough attention was paid to the distribution of young fruit trees for planting in many districts, including Lezhe, Erseke, Gramsh, Tepelene, to permit fulfilling the fall planting plan 100 percent.

Full use was not made of state assistance through farm credits to collective farms and individual holdings because of the weakness of state organizations in making the proper allotments of credit due to the insufficient efforts of primary party organizations to explain to poor peasants the advantages of such assistance.

The planting of vegetables to supply the needs of cities and industrial centers did not receive due care and attention. Hence, the plan for vegetable planting was not fulfilled on individual holdings or in economic enterprises.

Proper attention was not paid to mass dissemination of advanced agricultural information on the methods of the best farm workers or on Soviet farming methods. The farm press and the central press organs did not sufficiently explain the importance of this problem in the fall sowing.

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## PROVISIONS OF DECREE

Considering the importance of the spring sowing in assuring bread for the people and supplying industry with raw materials, especially cotton, sugar beets, and tobacco, and the shortcomings discovered in the fall sowing, the Council of Ministers and the Central Committee of the Albanian Workers' Party, decrees that:

1. The executive committees must re-examine, by 15 February 1952, the fulfillment of the fall sowing plan and must take steps to insure that the collective farms and private holdings supply any deficiencies in the fall sowing. Areas not already planted in wheat and rye must be planted, depending upon conditions, with spring wheat, corn, and rice. Arable areas not planted during the fall planting must be planted in spring crops priority being given, where the soil is suitable, to industrial crops. Shortages in the fall planting of alfalfa must be made up by exceeding the plan for the spring planting of alfalfa.

2. To increase the reserves of raw materials for the Stalin Textile Combine and for the 8 Nentori Sugar Combine, the area approved in the plan for cotton and beet planting must be increased in various rreths in the amounts specified in the annex [not reproduced herein] to this decision.

The Planning Commission, the Ministry of Agriculture, and the executive committees in the rreths must effect the necessary changes in the plan approved for 1952. The executive committees must complete the apportionment of the additional above-mentioned areas and conclude all contracts with the agencies concerned by 20 February 1952.

3. In connection with securing and distributing seed the following measures must be taken:

a. As soon as possible the agricultural economists must prepare the seed for the spring sowing of corn, beans, and garden vegetables. Alfalfa seed must be withdrawn [from the warehouses] not later than 15 March and tobacco planting must be completed by 1 March.

b. The agencies of the Ministry of Industry must turn over to the branches of the NSHFFB [State Farm Seed Enterprise] the quantity of cottonseed specified in the plan by 15 March 1952.

c. Seed are to be withdrawn by private holdings and collective farms as follows: for two-rowed barley and flax by 25 February 1952; for sugar beets, melons, and sunflowers by 10 March 1952; and for cotton and castor beans by 5 April 1952.

4. The Ministry of Agriculture and the Albanian State Bank must obtain the approval of the government by 10 February and notify the rreths of the farm credit terms by 20 February. By 1 March 1952, the executive committees must complete allotment of credits to each locality. The localities must make allotments to each village by 10 March 1952. Government agencies and party organizations must try to fulfill the credit distribution plan on time.

5. Individual holdings must employ every means possible to secure the necessary tools, plows, harrows, and cultivators for the spring planting. They must take all necessary measures to secure the harness and fodder for draft animals. The branches of the NSHFFB must provide rapid distribution of seed, chemical fertilizers, and farm tools.

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6. To secure a high yield the greatest effort must be made to apply advanced methods in preparing the ground and in planting, cultivating, and harvesting the crops. To this end:

a. The fields must be cleared of stubble to prevent damage by disease and harmful insects. The fields must be fertilized after proper preparatory work in all individual holdings and collective farms where this work has not been completed. The moisture and texture of the ground which was worked during the fall and winter should be preserved by working it with a cultivator or plow and using a harrow after plowing.

b. All the necessary material means are to be secured and all organizational measures taken for strict observation of the time limits set by the regulations of the Ministry of Agriculture for spring planting of cotton, from 10 April to 15 May 1952; of sugar beets, from 15 March to 15 April 1952; of tobacco; from 20 April to 20 May 1952. Planting in the shortest possible time is necessary to preserve the winter moisture. Industrial crops and rice must be planted on collective property or on blocks of private holdings. Irrigated land is to be used primarily for cotton.

The above crops are to be planted on other than collective property only after research by the agricultural sections and a decision rendered by the executive committee of the Workers' Party.

c. Spring crops, especially cotton and sugar beets, must be planted in rows so that they can be worked by a cultivator. For this purpose maximum use must be made of the seeders of the MTS, and collective farms. If seeders are lacking, a plow must be used, leaving the necessary distance between rows.

d. State Farms, collective farms, and individual holdings must take special care to organize their work so that all the operations, such as the thinning or addition of young plants, and especially, the cultivating may be well done and so that all the available manpower may be used.

e. Irrigation canals must be used to full capacity. All possible measures must be taken to open as many small canals as possible and to make intelligent use and proper distribution of the water, supplying irrigation water primarily to land planted in cotton, sugar beets, and rice. By 15 May, the executive committees must make an inspection of the motor pumps in each area. By 30 April, the Ministry of Agriculture must complete the system of irrigation canals and open secondary and tertiary canals in the whole area watered by national canals. Furthermore, detailed instructions must be given by 30 March on the time and means of irrigating the chief crops.

f. On the basis of instructions to be issued by the Ministry of Agriculture, the executive committees will prepare a concrete plan for agricultural courses on spring planting. The party and mass organizations must see that there is as large an attendance as possible at these courses.

7. To secure select seed, all the necessary measures specified in the directives of the Ministry of Agriculture must be taken for the fields set aside for the production of seed. As much of the best alfalfa-growing land as possible must be set aside for the production of alfalfa seed.

8. The agencies of the Ministries of Procurement, Industry, and Agriculture shall exercise continuous supervision over individual holdings and collective farms to make certain that they comply with the terms of their contracts, from the time the land is first worked until the industrial crops are harvested and delivered. The agencies shall see that all deficiencies noted in 1951 are eliminated.

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9. The hoeing of the grain crops, especially wheat, must be so organized that it can be completed by 30 April. Women's organizations can give special help in accomplishing this.

10. The reeth executive committees shall take the necessary measures to assure fulfillment of the plan for the planting of fruit, olive, and citrus trees, and shall organize the grafting of wild olive, wild pear, and other fruit trees. In national and local nurseries, the transplanting of young trees shall be completed by 31 March 1952 and the planting of 2-year-old olive, fig, and mulberry trees by 15 April 1952.

11. The areas planted in vegetables must be increased on individual holdings and collective farms and also on the state farms and farms connected with state enterprises.

#### SPECIAL DUTIES

To achieve better organization of the work during planting, the Council of Ministers and the Central Committee of the Albanian Workers' Party impose the following special duties:

##### On State Farms

1. The repair of tractors and their accessories shall be completed in good order and by the dates assigned, in accordance with the directives of the Ministry of Agriculture. Furthermore, the necessary quantities of seed must be procured by 1 March 1952. They must be cleaned and tested for germination.

2. Farmers must adhere strictly to the plan for agronomic measures laid down by the Ministry of Agriculture, including the selection of seeds, check row planting, the Soviet method of planting cotton, artificial fertilization, and the summer planting of potatoes. All state farms must do their spring planting by machine and their hoeing with a cultivator on not less than 75 percent of the area under cultivation.

3. Efficient use shall be made of organic and chemical fertilizers.

4. To secure the production of selected seeds, the most advanced agricultural measures must be employed on land set aside for this purpose.

5. The planned number of plants must be secured and all specified cultivation work carried out in olive groves, orchards, and vineyards.

6. Reorganization based on Soviet experience will be enforced; various types of brigades must be formed, depending upon equipment and the nature of the land. Courses must be organized to train brigades and responsible teams.

7. Primary party organizations and mass organizations in enterprises must increase their political work among the workers, develop socialist competition, and organize publicity for outstanding workers. Communist Party members, by the personal example, must be in the forefront of the campaign to fulfill and exceed the planting plan.

##### On MTS

1. The directors, the party and mass organizations, and all workers at the MTS shall take all necessary measures to repair and maintain the machinery, to perform all technical services, and to reinforce labor discipline. All MTS shall complete repairs on tractors and their parts on schedule and repair their harvest machinery and stationary motors by 15 May 1952. All machines must be tested before operation.

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2. Contracts relating to the spring planting must be executed in detail. Work under these contracts must be done on schedule and must be of good quality. Repeated cultivation and harrowing are required. Special attention must be given to the planting and weeding of cotton and sugar beets on collective farms and on individual holdings.

3. To insure maximum utilization of the tractors, the state agencies, party organizations, and MTS themselves must strive to eliminate fences, especially on areas which are to be planted in cotton or sugar beets.

4. All party and mass organizations, as well as workers, must make every effort to keep the machinery in good repair, to economize on fuel, and to increase labor productivity. The directors of the MTS must see that the tractors are regularly supplied with the necessary fuel.

#### On Collective Farms

1. By 20 February 1952, the managers of collective farms must have a plan drawn up for operational measures for the spring planting, and by 29 February this plan is to be presented and approved in the general meetings of the collective farms.

2. By 25 February, the repair of agricultural tools and machinery must be completed, fodder reserves for the draft animals secured, and measures taken to procure, clean, and disinfect the necessary seed.

3. The organization of brigades must be encouraged and full participation of collectivists, including women, secured.

4. Agricultural cooperatives must follow the example of the Vishocice and Rembec (Korce) agricultural cooperatives in forming high-efficiency squads, especially for raising cotton, sugar beets, and corn.

To influence the development of the campaign and take swift measures to eliminate shortcomings, the people's councils and the primary organizations in villages must analyze the state of the campaign at least once a week, the people's councils of localities once every 10 days, and the rrreth executive committee once every 15 days.

The Ministry of Agriculture and the executive committees shall organize a regular system of record keeping.

The Ministry of Agriculture and the Director of Agriculture of the Central Committee of the Albanian Workers' Party shall issue directives for implementation of this decree, shall supervise and give continuous assistance to the agencies under them in meeting their obligations, and shall report to the Chairman of the Council of Ministers and the Central Committee of the Albanian Workers' Party, respectively, once in every 2 weeks, on the progress of the program.

The state authorities and party and primary organizations in each rrreth shall study the availability of manpower and equipment in the rrreth and villages and take concrete measures to achieve complete utilization of these resources by organizing collective work and reciprocal aid on a voluntary basis. They shall also assist families which lack manpower and equipment.

In this campaign, Soviet methods are to be employed on the widest possible scale, including check row planting of corn, the Soviet method of planting cotton, selection of seed, and artificial pollination.

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Party organizations, trade-union committees, and other mass organizations shall organize propaganda for socialist competition in enterprises, collective farms, and villages, and publish the results during the campaign.

The central press and the farm press shall follow closely the development of the campaign and publish the successes and the names of outstanding men in agriculture. They shall also introduce Soviet agricultural methods on a large scale.

The Ministry of Industry and the Ministry of Transport shall instruct their offices to help the MTS by giving them priority in acquiring spare parts and in getting machinery repaired when the MTS cannot themselves acquire such parts.

The Ministry of Transport shall instruct transportation agencies to give absolute priority on trains, busses, and other means of transportation to persons assigned duties by the Ministry of Agriculture in connection with the planting campaign.

The following organizational measures shall be taken to execute the provisions of this decision:

- a. A joint meeting of the party committee bureau and the executive committee shall be held by 15 February 1952.
- b. This decision and the decision of the executive committee and of the party committee on spring planting shall be put into effect by the economic activists by 20 February 1952.
- c. This decision is to be put into effect by 29 February 1952 in primary party organizations in villages, collective farms, MTS, and state agricultural enterprises. It shall be read before labor collectives, general village meetings, and in collective farms assemblies.
- d. The central agencies of the Democratic Front, the BRPSH (Union of Albanian Working Youth), Central Committee of the Albanian Workers' Party and the Union of Albanian Women, shall issue directives to their agencies on their duties by 15 February 1952.

Because of the extreme dryness of the country during the summer and the vital importance of moisture to a high yield of spring crops, the Council of Ministers and the Central Committee of the Albanian Workers' Party appeal to the workers of the state farms, the members of the collective farms, and all farm workers to finish planting on schedule, if not earlier, while the ground is moist, so that the spring crops will get the maximum benefit from the winter moisture.

The party and mass organizations must develop extensive political, cultural, and artistic activity to publicize this Decree and, while fighting the kulaks, mobilize the agricultural workers for the fulfillment and overfulfillment of the spring planting plan. Communists, activists in the mass organizations, and members of the people's councils must set an example in the employment of advanced agricultural methods in planting and cultivating crops.

Council of Ministers, Albanian People's Republic  
The Central Committee, Albanian Workers' Party

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